

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 183850
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 L-03 INR-10 SP-02
SAA-01 /050 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES/NEA/ARN:ETUNIS:DWL
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES

-----124480 202039Z /62

P 202008Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183850

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR CHARGE FROM VELIOTES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, US, OVIP (CROWN PRINCE HASSAN)

SUBJECT: VELIOTES MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN

1. MORNING OF JULY 18 MY WIFE AND I MET FOR OVER AN HOUR WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN AND PRINCESS SARVATH AT THEIR HOTEL IN NEW YORK. JOINING US WERE AMBASSADOR ABDULLAH SALAH AND CHRISTINE MONROE, NEA/ARN ECONOMIC OFFICER. I BRIEFED THE CROWN PRINCE ALONG FAMILIAR LINES ON CURRENT U.S. VIEWS AND ACTIVITIES ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS, ANTICIPATED RESULTS OF LONDON TALKS, AND CRISIS IN LEBANON. INTER ALIA, I MADE POINT OF THANKING HASSAN FOR THE HELPFUL STATEMENT BY MININFO ABU ODEH ON THE EGYPTIAN PEACE PLAN. WE ALSO DISCUSSED SITUATION IN YEMENS, PARTICULARLY SAUDI CONCERN IN BOTH YAR AND PDRY, AND PROSPECTS FOR CLOSER JORDANIAN-SAUDI COOPERATION IN YAR.

2. I BRIEFED HASSAN ON THE CONGRESSIONALLY-MANDATED INTER-CONFIDENTIAL

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AGENCY TASK FORCE STUDYING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE, GIVEN HASSAN'S OWN INTEREST IN THE ISSUE. HE INDICATED SOME NERVOUSNESS THAT WE WERE THINKING IN TERMS OF A "MARSHALL PLAN" FOR THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH MIGHT BE DESIGNED TO "BUY OFF" THE ARABS. HE SEEMED REASONABLY SATISFIED WITH OUR ASSURANCES THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE ARAB SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED IN THIS ISSUE AND ARE PROCEEDING

IN THE STUDY BEARING THESE IN MIND. I MADE CLEAR THAT OUR STUDY WOULD NOT ADVERSELY IMPACT ON OUR BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WITH JORDAN.

3. PL 480 ISSUE WAS RAISED. CHRIS GAVE STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT SITUATION AND DESCRIBED THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY DIRECTED TOWARD ELIMINATING USE OF PL-480 FOR "POLITICAL" PURPOSES. WE ASSURED HASSAN THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES STRONGLY TO SUPPORT THE PL 480 PROGRAM FOR JORDAN AT LEAST THROUGH FY 1979.

4. ALSO DISCUSSED THE SENSITIVE ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN HANDLED IN OTHER CHANNELS WHICH IS SUBJECT OF SEPTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRINCE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE183850
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NAVELIOTES/NEA/ARN:ETUNIS:DWL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780298-1062
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780737/aaaabewu.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3656a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1936244
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VELIOTES MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, JO, US, (HASSAN, CROWN PRINCE), (VELIOTES, NICHOLAS)
To: AMMAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3656a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014